

**TOWN OF NEW GLARUS
PARKS COMMISSION MEETING
JUNE 13, 2013
AGENDA**

ATTENDING: Dana Emmerton, Andy Elkins, Chris Narveson and Susan McCallum,
Deputy Clerk

ABSENT: Pete Raskovic, Christine Reis

ALSO ATTENDING:

CALL TO ORDER: C. Narveson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., No quorum.

AGENDA:

1. Proof of Posting: Deputy Clerk attested to proper posting.
2. Approve Minutes of May 8, 2013 Parks Minutes: No approval as no quorum.
3. Public Comments: None
4. Discuss and consider: BBRC Update with Adam Ingwell, picnic table donation. Boundary marking/ surveying and bird watching stations: A. Elkins stated he found 5 out of possible nine boundary pins, four are left. He will use the original filed CSM supplied by the Deputy Clerk to find the rest. He used pink paint to mark the top of pins and top of posts. C. Narveson said he has orange flags to mark them also. A. Elkins said there are barb wire fence posts on every pin that he found. He noticed that there has not been a current mowing and there is not much of a trail; a small path goes down to the oak savanna, picnic table and then back. Discussion continued regarding possibilities for initial mowing and to maintain the path. A. Elkins felt there were a couple of good spots for the bird watching stations if the path was modified. The commission members present decided to visit the BBRC after the meeting to identify possible path and other placements. There was consensus to accept the picnic table being offered by Adam Ingwell. A. Ingwell was not present for this meeting.
5. Review and consider; handouts, program updates form, spring clean up: This year's tree sales programs took up the usual scheduled time for the spring clean up. In addition the vegetation has become too tall and the town has started mowing the sides of the roads. It was decided to cancel the event for this year.

S. McCallum reviewed 2012 budget hold over monies and 2013 budget stating expenditures were approved for Arbor Day and TPE membership. She will send the monies next week including a letter to Paul Jennrich thanking him for his efforts. C. Narveson suggested adding to ask him to communicate with the Commission next fall as we begin the process of ordering for tree sales.
6. Discuss trails and easements: It was discussed that this will be a long range project. D. Emmerton suggested connecting trout streams. A. Elkins suggested maybe working with Trout Unlimited, but C. Narveson stated they tend like natural areas without trails. D. Emmerton suggested identifying one or two spots that would be the easiest within the Town for establishing handicapped access. Discussion continued regarding possible locations, such as from the Sugar River Trail between Airport and Edelweiss roads off Valley

View Rd alongside the Little Sugar River. There was concern about getting permission from the DNR to cross the stream and the expense of a bridge. D. Emmerton suggested using stepping stones to cross it going toward Hwy 69. The others felt this was a good alternative as long as the DNR approves this crossing. Then the trail would cross Hwy 69 and connect to the Village's trail along Hwy 69. In this area it is also very marshy. Or create it on the other side of the stream so it wouldn't be necessary to cross the stream. Robert and Mary Wesenberg probably are the property owners that would need to be asked for an easement; this may have been sold to Voegli Farms. Deputy Clerk will research ownership and draft a letter asking for consideration. Another possibility may be to establish a trail on or near property owned by Pete Raskovic on Hwy H at the West edge of the Town along Hefty Creek. This may be a way to use a small section as an advertisement piece to promote more easements.

D. Emmerton suggested promoting trails as giving access to the less-abled population. A. Elkins suggested another selling point for a trail may be, a way to keep fisherman between the trail and stream, easing land owner's concerns regarding uninvited activity.

7. Review and discuss impact fees: No discussion.

8. Discuss and consider: Barn Workshop, Tree Sales 2014 updates:

The commission reviewed the financials for the tree sales/workshop; suggestions included less expenditure on refreshments such as just coffee and inexpensive donut holes for sales but more for workshop. Other suggestions included; alternating pines one year deciduous the next, people would need to preorder in November, A. Elkins suggested contacting Blumenladen about what ornamentals she carries to avoid duplication, involving girl scouts and possibly going with a larger size of tree. Concerns with a larger size were higher prices and customers upset if trees don't survive. Sycamores were very popular, but no commission member got one. D. Emmerton suggested putting a press release in the newspaper asking people to let us know how their trees are doing; asking for response by email, call or Facebook posting. S. McCallum asked her to forward the pictures from the sales and she will use those with the request for the press release. The Rocky Mt. Juniper was the worst seller, the pines varieties allowed for fast, medium and slow growth being the juniper. A. Elkins said people wanted the pines specifically for wild life cover and one customer wanted them for the difference in heights and growth rates.

No discussion regarding Barn Workshop.

9. Discuss website and Facebook page updates and administrator training: S. McCallum handed out reports from the page, talked about recent posts, and asked to take pictures of the unusual Junipers in the town and post to the page. All agreed this would be a unique posting. C. Narveson suggested including a link to TPE on our page and website and all agreed to include an announcement of our membership.

10. Schedule Next Meeting and Set Agenda, including Joint Meeting with Village:

Joint July 11, 6:30 pm. Agenda to include- the new trail proposal, membership with TPE, and additions to BBRC.

Park Commission, July 11 immediately following joint, Adam Ingwell, Barn Workshop, Facebook (August meeting we will invite Tom Mitchell from TPE to discuss evaluation of lands process) and other past agenda items excluding spring clean up.

11. Adjourn: The members present left the meeting to observe at BBRC at 8:15 pm.